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## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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54 **Printing apparatus and printing tape cassette.**

57 Described are a printing apparatus and a printing tape cassette for use with this printing apparatus. The printing apparatus combines within one apparatus a first printing region (10) for the printing of ordinary paper and a second printing region (20) capable of preparing a lettering tape (17). By combining the two printing regions within one apparatus,

several elements of the apparatus may be used in common, thus simplifying the overall structure of the apparatus and allowing a simplification and cost reduction of the control device. The two printing regions are disposed adjacent to each other, both within the shifting range of a carriage (4) mounting the printing head (1).

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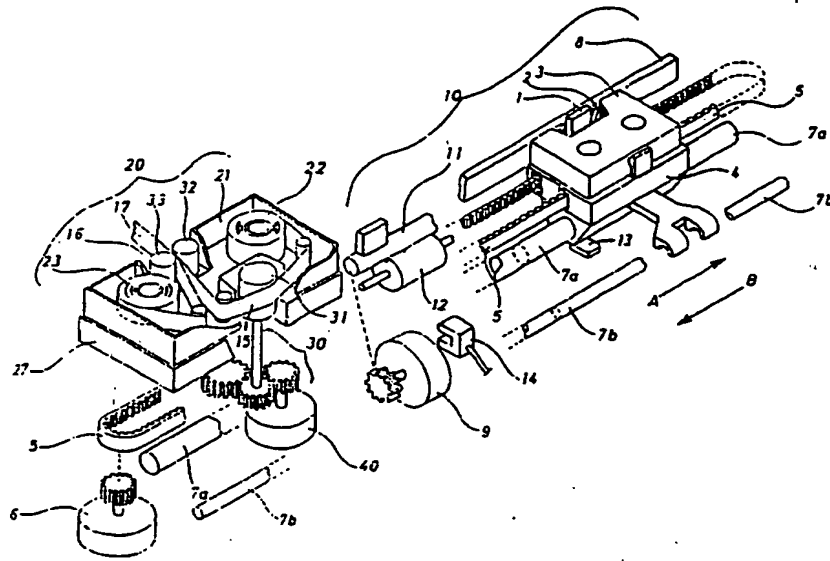


Fig. 1



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91 10 5710

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
A	FR-A-1 008 346 (ORMECO) * Page 2, right-hand column, paragraphs 6,7; figure 2 *	1,10,13	B 41 J 3/44 B 41 J 3/407
A	US-A-4 375 923 (HIDAKA et al.) * Column 3, lines 5-59; figure 1 *	1,10,13	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 8, no. 69 (M-286)(1506), 31st March 1984; & JP-A-58 215 367 (EPUSON K.K.) 14-12-1983 * Abstract *	1,10,13	
A	DE-A-3 128 360 (AUGUST SAUTER) * Claim 1; figure *	1,10,13	
A	EP-A-0 327 075 (KROY INC.) * The whole document *	1,10,13	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 41 J
<del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del>			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 26-11-1991	Examiner JOOSTING T.E.D.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

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- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims: 1-15



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### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-15 : Printer with ordinary paper print region and adjacent tape print region using same carriage.
2. Claims 16-17 : Tape printer.